

# BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

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Kenneth A. Ebnetter  
822 Wauona Trail  
Portage WI 53901

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Wisconsin Governor Scott McCallum signs Bill AB368 on April 2, 2002 in Oshkosh. With the Governor as he signed the law were Jim Lackore (AD9X), Wisconsin Section State Government Liaison Officer; Dr. Stan Kaplan, (WB9RQR) , Wisconsin Section Emergency Communications Officer; Don Michalski (W9IXG), Wisconsin Section Manager; Gus Wirth, Jr. (W9BTN), Ozaukee County Supervisor and Republican Party official; and the sponsor of AB368, former Wisconsin State Representative Joan Wade. Representative Wade also mentioned to the Governor and the audience that this bill was largely due to the efforts of the late Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ. Long time Editor of Badger State Smoke Signals. Photo by Joe Sienkiewicz, W9ER

## WISCONSIN GOVERNOR SIGNS AMATEUR ANTENNA BILL

Wisconsin Gov Scott McCallum signed AB368, the Amateur Radio FCC PRB-1 Amateur Radio Antenna Protection Act into law in that state. The governor's stroke of the pen April 2 makes the Badger State the 16th to incorporate the language of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into its statutes. The new law becomes effective immediately.

"After summarizing the contents of the law, Gov McCallum made a special point of noting the important role that Wisconsin hams play in providing emergency and public communication support throughout the state," said ARRL Wisconsin Section Government Liaison Jim Lackore, AD9X. who was present at the signing. The Amateur Radio antenna bill was one of six pieces of legislation that McCallum signed into law April 2 during a ceremony at the Oshkosh Senior Center.

AB 368 mirrors the language of the limited federal preemption. It would require that ordinances or resolutions affecting the placement, screening or height of Amateur Radio antennas or support structures have a "reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic,

public health or safety objective." Such an ordinance or resolution also must represent "the minimum practical regulation" necessary to accomplish the locality's objectives and must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communication.

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Check us out on the web at  
[Http://www.bsas.org](http://www.bsas.org)



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — [kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net](mailto:kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net)

## Swapfests And Other Social Events

Saturday, May 4, 2002, Cedarburg, WI. 24th Annual Amateur Radio and Computer Swapfest. Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC). Info: [www.qsl.net/orc/swap.html](http://www.qsl.net/orc/swap.html).

Sunday, May 5, 2002, DeKalb IL Hamfest. Sandwich Fairgrounds, Sandwich, IL. Contact: Bob Yurs, W9ICU, KARC Pres. At (815) 895-3310 or e-mail [bob@w9icu.com](mailto:bob@w9icu.com) Web site: <http://www.wsl.net/wa9cjn>

Saturday, July 6, 2002, Oak Creek South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest '02. American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI.

Saturday, August 10, 2002, Baraboo, WI. The Circus City Swapfest sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, inc. Sauk County Fairgrounds on Highway 33 on east side of Baraboo, WI. \$5.00 admission, \$4.00 in advance. 8-foot tables, \$5.00 each. Setup beginning at 6:00 a.m. Advance tickets to Yellow Thunder ARC, 1120 City View Road, Baraboo WI 53913. Steve, N9UDO at (608) 356-2313 or [n9udo@arrl.net](mailto:n9udo@arrl.net) <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>

### [hamfest.htm](#)

Sunday, August 11, 2002. Ham-festers Radio Club Hamfest. Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. Contact: Robert Nelson, WB9WFR, 1720 Vollmer Road, Flossmoor, IL 60422 (708) 756-7984 [w b 9 w f r @ a r r l . n e t](mailto:w b 9 w f r @ a r r l . n e t) [www.hamfesters.org](http://www.hamfesters.org)

Friday-Sunday, September 20, 2002, Peoria September 20-21-22, 2002. Peoria Superfest 2002. Exposition Gardens Fairgrounds, 1601 W Northmoor Rd., off 6300 N. University, Peoria, IL. Contact: Peoria Superfest, PO Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612-3508. InfoLine: (309) 692-3378. E-mail: [w9uvi@arrl.net](mailto:w9uvi@arrl.net) Web-site: [www.w9uvi.org](http://www.w9uvi.org).

Saturday, November 2, 2002, Waukesha, WI. AMATEUR RADIO Fest 2002. The Milwaukee Repeater Club Waukesha County Expo Center Forum buildings, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission: \$5.00, tables \$15 per 8 ft. table. Electricity: \$15. Pancake breakfast 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Food available all day. Info: [www.execpc.com/~mrc](http://www.execpc.com/~mrc). Email: [mrc@execpc.com](mailto:mrc@execpc.com). Telephone: 262-367-3953.

Sunday, November 3, 2002, Menasha, WI. SWAPMEET 2002. Sponsor: Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club

(FCARC). Sabre Lanes, 1330 Midway Road, Menasha, Wisconsin. Seller table setup 6:00 a.m. Open to public 8:00 a.m. EZ Access: Take 47 ramp (Appleton Road Exit) South off US 441, its just a couple of blocks to the 6500 sq. ft. meeting facility at Sabre Lanes. Talk in on 146.52 MHz simplex. Info: Hamfest Phone: 920-733-3113. Email: [n9rjz@arrl.net](mailto:n9rjz@arrl.net). Web: [WWW.W9ZL.AMPR.ORG](http://WWW.W9ZL.AMPR.ORG).

Sunday, January 4, 2003, Waukesha, WI. West Allis Radio Amateur Club (WARAC) Midwinter Swapfest. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: Phil Gural, W9NAW, 414-425-3649. Web: [www.warac.org](http://www.warac.org).



Appleton  
FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: Third Mondays, 7 p.m., Columbus Club, 2531 N. Richmond Street, Appleton, WI Information: Pat, K9IK, 920.725.1149. [PLatour428@aol.com](mailto:PLatour428@aol.com)  
Web: <http://www.w9zl.ampr.org/>.

Baraboo  
BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY (BATS)  
Check BATS Web page: <http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/>

Baraboo  
YELLOW THUNDER  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: See the YTARC page this issue or <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc>.

Dubuque, IA  
GREAT RIVER  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Red Cross Center, 2400 Asbury Road. The club serves the tri-state area. On the Web: <http://www.qsl.net/wb0lob/>. Information or questions to: [N0hdc@aol.com](mailto:N0hdc@aol.com).

Eau Claire  
EAU CLAIRE  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m., Eau Claire Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. W9EAU repeater 146.91 MHz, tone 110.9 Hz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, President, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867. Phone (715) 838-9108, Email [kg9ra@ecarc.org](mailto:kg9ra@ecarc.org). Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

Fond du Lac  
FOND DU LAC  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7 p.m. Sunday net: 7:30 p.m. CDT, K9IA repeater, 145.430 - PL 107.2 Information: Jack Heil, KG9IN, 920.922.1413. Email: [kg9in@fdlhams.org](mailto:kg9in@fdlhams.org) Web: <http://www.fdlhams.org>.

Fort Atkinson  
TRI-COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Thursday monthly except June to August, 7 p.m., at Dwight Foster Public Library in Fort Atkinson. ARES Net each Wednesday evening at 8 and club net Monday evenings at 8 on 145.49 repeater. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, WA9VYL, 920.563.6502, or John Satterlee, WA9SAB, 920.563.6381.

Grafton  
OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB (ORC)  
Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center, [www.qsl.net/orc/](http://www.qsl.net/orc/).

Green Bay  
GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB  
Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Media Services area of J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere. Information: Kevin at [kb9sne@yahoo.com](mailto:kb9sne@yahoo.com).

Green Lake  
GREEN FOX  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Greater Green Lake County area. Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

Hudson  
St. CROIX VALLEY  
RADIO AMATEURS  
Meetings: Third Tuesdays, St. Croix County Emergency Government Center, Carmichael Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz. All are welcome!

Juneau  
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 7277 KHz, 10:30 a.m.

Madison  
SPACE PLACE  
AMATEUR RADIO CENTER  
No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison campus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station, N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, President, (608) 263-4685. Email: [n9uw@sal.wisc.edu](mailto:n9uw@sal.wisc.edu).

Madison  
BADGER  
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
University of Wisconsin - Madison/ W9YT Meetings: Third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in UW Union South. Room number posted on the Today in The Union board. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email: [w9ixg@arrl.org](mailto:w9ixg@arrl.org). Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

Madison  
FOUR LAKES  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: First and third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C, downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms State Office Building.

Manitowoc  
MANITOWOC COUNTY

## Badger State Smoke Signals

### *Amateur Radio Education and Information*

**CHAIRMAN/PUBLISHER:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. e-mail to: [kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net](mailto:kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net)

#### **EDITOR:**

**TREASURER:** Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901.

**EDITORIAL BOARD:** Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

### **Subscription Rate**

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly)\$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

### **When to Send It**

**The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date.** For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### **Where to Send It**

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to [n9qa@arrl.net](mailto:n9qa@arrl.net) (Dave Knaus, N9QA).

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

**Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the events date.**

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

### **Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals**

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

This newspaper is produced by volunteer radio amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

*Badger State Smoke Signals* is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

### **Editorial Disclaimer**

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.



RADIO AMATEURS (ManCoRad)  
Second Wednesday of each month. Club board meets at 6:30 p.m., and Regular meeting is at 7:30 p.m., at 1105 Fleetwood Drive, 2nd floor (Old County Shop building on northwest side of city.) Additional information: Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, (920) 682-9312. Email: fredw6bsf@lakefield.net.

Medford  
TAYLOR COUNTY AREA  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TCAARC)  
Meetings: Usually first Thursday, 7 p.m. sharp. Usual location: Emergency Government meeting room/Red Cross Office, basement of Sheriff's Annex to Taylor County Courthouse, 2nd and Ogden Streets, Medford. Talkin: 147.15 (+600) MHz. Amateurs and guests are welcome. ARES Net: Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m., 147.15 (+600) repeater. Information: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbottsford, WI 54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

Menomonee Falls  
FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One building in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

Menomonie, MI  
M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
General meetings: Monthly, second Thursday, 7 p.m., cafeteria, BAMC basement, Tenth Avenue, Menominee, MI. Amateurs and guests welcome. 2M repeater: 147.00, + offset. 70cm repeater: 444.075. Sunday net: 7 p.m., 147.00 repeater. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1082, Marinette, MI 54143.

Milwaukee  
GREATER MILWAUKEE DX  
ASSOCIATION  
Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (262) 363-4439. Email: garyk9gs@arrl.net.

Milwaukee  
MILWAUKEE  
RADIO AMATEURS CLUB  
Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Mailing address: P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Web: http://www.qsl.net/mrac . Email: w9rh@arrl.net.

Monomonie  
RED CEDAR  
REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.  
Saturday coffee at Hardee's in North Monomonie, corner of Highways 12 and 25 at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Peppermill Too, 1414 9th Street in the L-Mart Shopping Center in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

Northeast Area  
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX  
ASSOCIATION  
Meetings quarterly: April 28, Marinette; August 25, Fox Valley; November 10, Green Bay. For specific information about meetings, check http://home.new.rr.com/newdx/. Contact us at w9dxa@arrl.net.

Oak Creek  
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. Auctions in March and October. Swapfest July 6, 2002.

Onalaska  
RIVERLAND  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Onalaska Community Center. More informa-

tion: http://www.qsl.net/wr9arc/ . Email: wr9arc@qsl.net.

Oshkosh  
RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (R.A.W.)  
Meetings: Third Saturday monthly, locations vary. R.A.W. is a family oriented club. Most of its meeings revolve around family doings and outings. We are always looking for good people to join us. If you are a ham or interested in ham radio, contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662, or Duane Ritschke, W9UDX, (920) 233-1684.

QCWA Chapter 162  
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA)  
Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162.  
Meetings: Third Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant, Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in February, April, June, August, and October. Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday in December.

QCWA Chapter 55  
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA)  
Wisconsin Chapter 55 meets the first Saturday of June and October. For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Pt Washington Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-1774. mailto:rryokes@execpc.com.

Racine  
LAKESHORE REPEATER  
ASSOCIATION  
Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July, October. New meeting location to be announced.

Racine  
RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB  
Meetings: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., New meeting location to be announced.

Rhineland  
NORTHWOODS  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: Third Tuesday of Sept., Nov., Dec., Feb., and April for dinner business meetings at Ella's Restaurant, Jct. of Hwy. 51 and 70, north side of Woodruff, WI. Talkin on Sayner or Tomahawk repeaters. The Northwoods ARC News is on the club web site. http://www.freeyellow.com/members7/nwarc.

Sheboygan  
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: Second Tuesdays. 7 p.m., Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Building, 2032 Erie Avenue.

Shell Lake  
NORTHLAND  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: First Tuesday at the Shell Lake United Methodist Church, Reinhart Drive, Shell Lake, WI. Meeting time: 7 p.m. More information: http://home.centurytel.net/NorthlandARC/.

Stevens Point  
CENTRAL WISCONSIN  
RADIO AMATEURS  
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, WI. Second Wednesday.

Superior  
ARROWHEAD  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Meetings: Second Tuesday at WITC Conference Center, 600 N. 21st St., Superior, WI. Time: 7:30 p.m. Board meetings held before regular meetings.

W.A.R. WISCONSIN  
ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS

Quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters are held at various locations around the State on the second Saturdays of March, June, September and December. Check the WAR web page for meeting announcements and repeater coordination info. Information: http://www.wi-repeaters.org.

Watertown  
WATERTOWN  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Watertown Public Library, 100 South Water Street.

Waupaca  
WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
CQ First Tue. Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. CQ Third Fri. Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.


Wausau  
WISCONSIN VALLEY  
RADIO ASSOCIATION  
Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Location varies. Information: 146.64 (-600). http://home.dwave.net/~wvra/.

West Allis  
WEST ALLIS  
RADIO AMATEUR CLUB (WARAC)  
Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 80th and Lincoln Ave., West Allis. Meetings in basement. Entrance at rear, off alley. Handicapped accessible. www.warac.org.

West Bend  
WASHINGTON COUNTY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Courthouse. Net: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 146.73 (-600).

Wisconsin Rapids  
WISCONSIN RAPIDS  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
Meetings: Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 14 of Wood County Courthouse. Talkin: 146.79 (-600) for entry into the building.

# The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations

May 04, 2002	St. Paul, MN
May 04, 2002	Racine, WI
May 09, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
May 11, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 11, 2002	Madison, WI
May 11, 2002	Blaine, MN
May 11, 2002	Appleton, WI
May 18, 2002	Sheboygan, WI
May 18, 2002	Onalaska, WI
May 18, 2002	Loves Park, IL
May 18, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
May 21, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
May 25, 2002	Bloomington, MN
May 25, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 25, 2002	Tomahawk, WI
June 01, 2002	St. Paul, MN
June 01, 2002	Racine, WI
June 08, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 08, 2002	Madison, WI
June 08, 2002	Blaine, MN
June 13, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
June 15, 2002	Loves Park, IL
June 15, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
June 18, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
June 22, 2002	Bloomington, MN
June 29, 2002	Tomahawk, WI

July 06, 2002	St. Paul, MN
July 11, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
July 13, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 13, 2002	Madison, WI
July 13, 2002	Blaine, MN
July 16, 2002	Sheboygan, WI
July 16, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
July 20, 2002	Loves Park, IL
July 20, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
July 27, 2002	Bloomington, MN
July 27, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 27, 2002	Tomahawk, WI
August 10, 2001	Blaine, MN
August 02, 2002	St. Paul, MN
August 06, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
August 10, 2002	Madison, WI
August 10, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 17, 2002	Loves Park, IL
August 17, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
August 17, 2002	Appleton, WI
August 20, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
August 24, 2002	Bloomington, MN
August 31, 2002	Tomahawk, WI
September 07, 2002	St. Paul, MN
September 07, 2002	Racine, WI
September 12, 2002	Apple Valley, MN
September 14, 2002	Onalaska, WI
September 14, 2002	Madison, WI
September 14, 2002	Blaine, MN
September 14, 2002	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
September 14, 2002	Sheboygan, WI
September 17, 2002	Eden Prairie, MN
September 21, 2002	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
September 21, 2002	Loves Park, IL
September 21, 2002	Cottage Grove, MN
September 28, 2002	Bloomington, MN
September 28, 2002	Milwaukee, WI
(MRAC)	
September 28, 2002	Tomahawk, WI
November 02, 2002	Menomonie, WI
November 02, 2002	Racine, WI
November 03, 2002	Appleton, WI
November 09, 2002	Onalaska, WI
November 19, 2002	Sheboygan, WI
December 07, 2002	Racine, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except Jan., Jul., & Aug.)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
(September through April)	
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI
(MRAC)	
(except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	

BSSS is unable to carry the complete Test Point listing every issue. Please see the March 2002 issue for a complete printing of location and contact information. Up to date information is also available on our web edition: <http://www.bsas.org>

**GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS**  
Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Got your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> or <ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605>.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605

(continued on page 11)

# Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. `Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary  
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

## WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Manager
BWN	YES	3985		1200	0600 W9RCW
BEN	YES	3985		1800	1200 KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985		2330	1730 K9FHI
WNN	YES	3723		0000	1800 KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3645		0030	1830 N9BDL
WIN/W	YES	3662		0100	1900 WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3662		0400	2200 W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61		0130	1930 KA9OMC
(MondaysCST—Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12		0345	2145 WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25		0300	2100
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					

STM Report  
Wisconsin Section  
February, 2002

W9YPY, SK -- I join the rest of the Wisconsin Amateur Radio community in mourning the passing of Jim Caldwell, W9YPY, truly a fixture in the Badger Weather Net, and a fine gentleman to know. Jim is another inspiration for those of us who support the public service aspect of Ham Radio. He will be missed, especially very early on 3985. A complete obituary is available at <http://www.rhinelanderdailynews.com/archives/index.inn>.

PSHR NEW CRITERIA -- If you haven't seen it, there's a new set of criteria coming for the Public Service Honor Roll. As of May 1, 2002, we will collect PSHR data in the following six categories -- seven including the total. The idea of the PSHR remains, to recognize operators whose public service performance during the month qualifies for 70 or more total points.

Starting May 1, 2002, a new season for the Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR) begins! It has been eleven years since the qualification criteria were last revised. The idea behind updating the PSHR program was initiated largely by the comments and opinions of Amateur Radio operators who are active in all areas of public service communications.

- The six areas for rating are:
  - Participating in a public service net (max. 40),
  - Handling formal messages (max. 40)
  - Serving in an ARRL-sponsored volunteer position (max. 30)
  - Participating in a scheduled, short-term public service event, including off-the-air meetings (5 points per hour - no limit)
  - Participating in an unplanned emergency response (5 points per hour - no limit)
  - Providing and maintaining an automated digital system handling ARRL radiogram-formatted messages or a web page e-mail list server oriented toward Amateur Radio public service. (10 points per item)

I'll explore some of the other categories in a little more detail over the next few months, so we'll all be on the same page by May 1. There will also be plenty of articles in QST and other sources. For now, just consider category one. Participation in a public service net -- 1 point each time, maximum 40. A public service net is one that is regularly scheduled and handles Amateur Radio formal messages. Here are examples of public service nets: Local and section nets that are affiliated with the National Traffic System (NTS) [such as the Badger Weather Net, the Badger Emergency Net, the Wisconsin Side Band Net, the Wisconsin Novice Net, Wisconsin Slow Speed Net, and both sessions of the Wisconsin Intrastate Net.] ; NTS region [9RN], NTS area [CAN], and independent nets that handle traffic [Interstate Side Band Net]; ARES, RACES, SKYWARN nets that meet on a regular basis; net sessions that are activated during emergencies and threats of potential emergencies; public service and safety nets; nets that are established for training radio amateurs in public service and emergency com-

munications.

SOCIALIZING ON THE NETS -- On our section nets, it has been tradition to incorporate some visiting (second goes) after the traffic has been passed or while waiting for stations holding or taking traffic to check in. This is a positive aspect of our nets, since it allows for bonding among operators, provides a chance to check equipment, get some signal reports, and add to the camaraderie. This is a hobby and it should be enjoyed.

We remember, of course, that the primary purpose of traffic nets (as stated in each net's preamble) is to handle traffic. That's why the liaisons to other nets are checked in first. That's why the NCS tries to expedite all messages according to their precedence. Stations who check in and for whom there is no traffic are automatically excused. They can stick around for some visiting, but that's not required. Handling traffic well can be just as much fun as visiting, so if all stations have time for is to check in to see if there's traffic for their area, that's plenty.

HINT OF THE MONTH -- Don't forget. The way you receive a message is the way to relay it. Never change the text. If you suspect there's something erroneous in it, you can attach an operator's note -- but the text stays the same. 73 , K9LGU/ STM

MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY February 2002						
NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM	
BWN	1213	1614	2100	28	W9RCW	
BEN	495	57	810	28	KE9VU	
WSBN	647	56	893	28	K9FHI	
WNN	276	0	376	28	KB9ROB	
WSSN	215	24	294	28	N9BDL	
WIN/E	229	54	297	28	WB9ICH	
WIN/L	228	62	346	28	W9UW	
totals	3303	1867	5116	196		

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY February 2002						
STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL	
K9JPS	0	321	294	297	895	- BPL
W9RCW	0	316	10	287	613	- BPL
N9VE	0	204	31	192	427	- BPL*
K9GU	0	194	28	189	411	- BPL*
N9TVT	0	84	252	1	337	
W9CBE	0	86	90	3	179	
W9IHW	0	50	33	49	132	
K9LGU	9	68	28	7	112	
N9BDL	0	25	60	1	86	
KG9B	0	17	43	0	60	
K9FHI	0	21	38	1	60	
AG9G	0	8	47	0	55	
N9KHD	0	22	29	0	51	
W9YCV	3	24	11	11	49	
KE9VU	0	19	28	0	47	
W9UW	0	33	12	0	45	
W9BHL	0	2	28	1	31	
KB9ROB	0	28	2	0	30	
WB9ICH	0	26	2	0	28	
AA9BB	0	0	26	0	26	
WD9FLJ	3	6	6	3	18	
KN9P	1	8	9	0	18	
W9RSX	0	2	12	2	16	
W9PVD	0	3	4	3	7	
K9UTQ	0	0	4	0	4	
*BPL for over 100 orginations and deliveries						

P	S	H	R	SUMMARY	February 2002	
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6 7 8 T
W9RCW	29	0	0	287	0	30 0 0 396
K9JPS	44	18	12	297	0	10 0 0 387
N9VE	46	3	0	192	0	30 0 0 291
W9YCV	60	24	24	11	3	20 0 0 142
N9BDL	60	24	24	1	0	30 0 0 139
K9FHI	60	24	24	1	0	30 0 0 139
WD9FLJ	52	0	24	3	3	20 3 30 132
K9LGU	60	9	24	7	9	20 0 0 129
AG9G	60	24	18	0	0	10 10 0 122
W9CBE	60	24	24	1	0	10 0 0 119
N9TVT	60	24	24	1	0	10 0 0 119
W9RSX	47	24	0	2	0	10 0 0 83

Section Traffic Manager's Report  
Wisconsin Section  
March 2002

Good News; Bad News; Moving News  
We've moved. The WNA web site's free trial has expired. WNA postings will now appear on the W9IXG website at <http://www.w9ixg.eboard.com>. Look for the articles on message handling, How to Be an NCS, counting the check, the QNI Index, net stats and the monthly STM report. We're also featuring a photo, provided by W9CBE, of some of the 1959 WIN crowd.

Here's the good news. The nets in Wisconsin continue to function well and appear to be gaining in popularity. Check-ins are up a bit, traffic is being handled efficiently, and the liaison to the rest of the National Traffic System has been working very well. We have reliable net control stations, skilled 9RN representatives, and very friendly net members willing to handle traffic. In an emergency, we could activate our nets to supplement the RACES/ARES operations, and the links to the NTS would be able to function smoothly.

We are trying to spread the word about traffic nets and other forms of public service provided by hams when we work with newcomers to the hobby. We discuss traffic handling in its various forms on our local and section nets. Clubs and ARES groups have hosted your STM for a session on the NTS and traffic handling. So what's the bad news?

We need to increase two elements -- members and messages. Often traffic arrives in the state and can't be routed to its destination simply because there are no active hams in the area. Those messages are usually serviced back to the originating station as undeliverable. If we knew there would be a station in one of those remote areas who would regularly check a net, say, once a week, even that would give us a route for the message.

If you are delivering a congratulatory message to a new ham, you might add some words of welcome and encouragement, hoping to get a few to check into the section nets.

Once a newcomer checks into a section net, the NCS and other members will do all they can to make him or her feel welcome.

It may not be too exciting to deliver a "book" message of congratulations or a happy birthday greeting to someone, but it's good practice and it does exercise the system. If each net member originated, or at least sent, one message per week, it would truly help to keep the nets working. Yes, there's Email. True, one can make relatively cheap telephone calls. No doubt that some find the written word through the postal service more personal. That is not the point. All of those media are fine. The purpose of maintaining our traffic nets, sharpening our skills, practicing what we do well, is to be ready. For that, we need members and messages. Please help.

The second category of the new PSHR criteria is "traffic handled." It goes like this: 2) Handling formal messages (radiograms) via any mode -- 1 point for each message handled; maximum 40. A "handled" message is defined as a message that is originated or sent or received or delivered. PSHR will follow the same method as Brass Pounders' League to count an individual operator's traffic total (also known as station activity report) to reach the figure for the new PSHR Category 2. There is one point granted for each message handled; maximum 40 points per calendar month. In other words, it's the same as your Station Activity Report total (up to 40). If you receive a message and deliver it, that's two points. If you get a reply and send it, that's another two. Keep counting.

73, K9LGU, STM - Wisconsin

MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY March 2002						
NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM	
BWN	1323	1597	2325	31	W9RCW	
BEN	539	63	966	31	KE9VU	
WSBN	735	100	1021	31	K9FHI	
WNN	268	11	387	31	KB9ROB	
WSSN	234	14	334	31	N9BDL	
WIN/E	236	58	341	31	WB9ICH	
WIN/L	258	66	343	31	W9UW	
total	3593	1909	5717	217		

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY March 2002						
STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL	
K9JPS	0	406	32	385	823	- BPL
K9GU	0	185	31	186	482	-
BPL*						
W9RCW	0	227	12	224	463	-
BPL*						
N9VE	0	201	35	192	428	-
BPL*						
W9CBE	0	108	90	8	206	
K9LGU	5	72	40	1	118	
N9BDL	0	26	66	0	92	
K9FHI	0	27	36	0	63	
AG9G	0	6	51	0	57	
KG9B	0	11	44	0	55	
KE9VU	0	20	32	0	52	
N9CK	0	26	24	2	52	
W9UW	0	33	8	0	41	
KB9ROB	0	33	4	1	38	
N9KHD	0	13	11	7	31	
W9BHL	0	1	29	1	31	
W9YCV	0	7	16	4	27	
AA9BB	0	0	26	0	26	
WD9FLJ	4	10	7	4	25	
W9PVD	0	9	7	1	17	
W9RSX	0	2	12	2	16	
KN9P	0	7	7	0	14	
N9JIY	0	0	6	0	6	
KB9KEG	0	0	6	0	6	
K9UTQ	0	0	3	0	3	

P	S	H	R	SUMMARY	March 2002	
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6 7 8 T
K9JPS	50	21	9	385	0	10 0 0 475
N9VE	45	6	0	192	0	30 10 0 283
W9RCW	26	0	0	224	0	30 0 0 280
N9BDL	60	24	24	0	0	30 0 0 138
WD9FLJ	60	0	20	4	4	20 0 30 138
W9CBE	60	24	24	8	0	20 0 0 136
K9FHI	60	24	24	1	0	20 0 0 132
W9YCV	60	24	24	4	0	20 0 0 132
K9LGU	60	9	24	1	5	20 10 0 129
N9TVT	60	24	24	0	0	10 0 0 120
AG9G	60	24	18	0	0	10 0 0 112
W9RSX	53	24	0	2	0	10 0 0 89
KB9KEG	60	18	0	0	0	10 0 0 88

(Continued from page 1)

## WISCONSIN GOVERNOR SIGNS AMATEUR ANTENNA BILL

On hand in addition to Lackore as the governor signed the measure were Wisconsin Section Manager Don Michalski, W9IXG; Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator Dr. Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR; Ozaukee County Supervisor and Republican official Gus Wirth Jr, W9BTN; and the original sponsor of AB368, former Wisconsin State Rep Joan Wade, who credited the efforts of the late Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, in getting the bill through the legislature.

Romelfanger--a Wisconsin Amateur Radio activist, ARRL Public Information Coordinator and editor of the Badger State Smoke Signals ham radio newspaper--died December 22. He had worked closely with Wade's office to promote introduction of PRB-1 legislation for several years. Michalski has characterized passage of the measure "a tribute" to Romelfanger.

Michalski said one of the reasons for the passage of AB368 was a strong team and significant support from Wisconsin's Amateur Radio community. "Our deep appreciation to all of you who took the time to contact your legislators," Michalski said. "The system works!"

The Governors office has sent a copy of the bill along with a signing pen to Mary Romelfanger, sister of SK Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ

Check us out on the web at  
[Http://www.bssts.org](http://www.bssts.org)



# The Computer

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive  
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654  
(262) 284-9346  
skaplan@mcw.edu



## The Computer Corner No. 100. A Better Way to Install Windows 98

- by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR  
105 Martin Drive  
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654  
(262) 284-9346  
skaplan@mcw.edu

Wow! This is monthly article number 64h (h = hexadecimal), or 1100100 (binary), or 100 in our plain old decimal system. A nice, round number that represents 8 years and 4 months worth of articles. I should put a candle on my breakfast bagel tomorrow morning! I hope you have found the series useful. This month's subject is a tip that can make your life easier. You can use this tip to:

1. Install Win98 on a hard drive for the first time. This way is actually easier than the standard way, and has the added benefit of storing the important contents of the installation CD-ROM on your hard drive. If Windows needs additional files in the future (as, for example, when you add a new hardware device), it won't even ask you for the CD-ROM. It will just automatically go get the needed files from the copy on your hard drive! Win98 can do this because it knows that it was installed from the hard drive, rather than from a CD-ROM, and that the installation files (including drivers) are still there.
2. Put a second copy of all installation files on a hard drive that already has Win98 installed. As above, when adding new hardware in the future, you will not need the CD-ROM. Just point Windows to the folder where the installation files are located, and it will happily slurp up the ones it needs for your new hardware. This works for restoring damaged or corrupt files, too.
3. You can even use this method to put Win98 on a machine that has no CD-ROM drive. I have done this many times, by first copying the files to a parallel port external hard drive (using a machine that did have a CD-ROM drive), then using the external hard drive to copy to the machine without a CD-ROM drive. This will work with an external tape drive, as well.

Now, be aware that this method is used to transfer "installation files", which are the source files that are used to install the operating system. The installation files are compressed, just like zip files, though Microsoft calls them .cab files (cab = cabinet). These compressed files are decompressed during the installation process to create the actual files that make up the operating system. They have to be

decompressed in a specific sequence, and some of them are run (executed) during the installation process. Windows takes care of all this itself.

Let us begin with the first situation, above. We will assume you have a new hard drive installed, and that it is properly partitioned and formatted, but has no software on it. You want to install Windows 98 and you possess a Win98 CD-ROM.

1. Boot with a Win98 Startup Disk (I have told you in previous columns that you really MUST have one of these). This floppy will give you access to your C: drive, and it will also set up the CD-ROM drive so you can read data from it. After booting, you will have an A:\ command prompt.
2. Change to the C: drive by typing **C:** and pressing the Enter key (hereafter, pressing the Enter key will be shown like this: **<Enter>**). Now make a directory (folder) on the C: drive called W98FLAT. To do this, simply type **MD\_W98FLAT <Enter>**. Don't type the underscore after MD (Make Directory). I put it there just to clearly indicate that there must be a space between the D and the W. Now move to that new folder by typing **CD\_W98FLAT <Enter>**. Again, don't type the underscore after CD (Change to Directory); make it a space.
3. Next, copy the important contents of the installation CD-ROM to your new folder. Give the command: **COPY\_D:\WIN98\\*. \* \_C:\W98FLAT <Enter>**. Again, the underscores are spaces. The D: in COPY\_D: above refers to your CD-ROM drive. If it is some other letter, substitute that letter for D:. Now go have a cup of coffee while around 120 megabytes (actually 127,104,759 bytes, to be exact) of data is copied to your hard drive.
4. The hard work is done. Remove the CD-ROM and put it away in a safe place. You are still in the W98FLAT subdirectory (folder). Type **SETUP <Enter>** to start installation of Windows 98.
5. Note 1: You will need the CD Key (the long string of letters and numbers) that is probably on a sticker on the CD-ROM case. However, you will only need it this one time. When you use W98FLAT in the future for installing new drivers or replacing corrupt files, Windows will not ask for it again. A nice bonus!
6. Note 2: If your CD-ROM is the Win98 Upgrade disk, the installation program will want proof that it really is an upgrade. Find an old set of Win-

dows 3.1 installation floppies to satisfy it. The installation program will only ask to read the first 3 or 4 (it varies!) of the 6 Win 3.1 disks. The floppies are a quick, easy solution. Alternatively, feed it a Win95 CD-ROM, or even Win 95 installation floppies if you have a set.

That is pretty much it. If you al-

ready have Win98 installed (situation 2), just do everything except booting with a Startup Disk. Go to an MSDOS Prompt, make a new folder as outlined above, copy the installation files into it as outlined, and you are done. Whenever you need to replace corrupt files or add new drivers, point the requesting program to your W98FLAT folder instead of to the CD-ROM. Windows will be happy, and that makes for Happy computing!

## The Computer Corner No. 101. Windows 98 is Watching You

- by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR  
105 Martin Drive  
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654  
(262) 284-9346  
skaplan@mcw.edu

Well, here we go with #101 in the series! If someone had told me back in 1993 when the column was started that I would write over 100, I would never have believed it. Anyway, we are still working with Windows 98. Why? Windows XP will turn out to be the biggest security leak in software history, and it should not be supported. My opinion. But, it will be yours, too, in the future. More on that will be forthcoming in the future.

Your copy of Windows 98 watches what you do. However, don't be upset by that statement, for those observations are to your benefit, and it does not report its findings to Microsoft. Therefore, this process is a Good Thing, not a Bad Thing. I am speaking of a program generically called Applog, specifically, CVTAPLOG.EXE, a 76kb program in your Windows folder. At least I think that is the heart of Applog, because there is precious little information on this program, or even the workings of Applog itself. Most of my information comes from a discussion of how Norton Speed Disk works with Applog, which can be found on the Symantec web site.

Applog keeps information on the application files you run, such as Word, Netscape, Notepad or any other program that is designed to interact with you, the human user. You can find that information recorded in a series of files kept in the C:\Windows\Applog folder. However, if you open one of the files found there, it will contain largely meaningless strings of hexadecimal numbers. More informative are the file names themselves. Peruse the file names in that folder and you will see all your applications, a unique mix specific to your machine and the way you work.

Applog records the application programs you run most often, including how many times you run them. It also records the files that those applications load, such as a letter loaded by Word. It even records the order in which those files are loaded. Applog starts recording this information the first day you use the computer, and it continues to log this usage as time goes on. After a few days or weeks of use, it has a sorted list of what you use most often and what files those applications need. That information is very valuable in improving the performance of your computer. Let me construct a scenario to help explain this.

Suppose you are a new user of

Microsoft Word, and whenever you start to write something in Word, you often call on the Office Assistant to gather information from the Help file. After you do that a few times, Applog will load the Word Help file whenever Word itself is loaded, and before you or the Word program ask for it! In this way, Applog improves the performance of your application by anticipating what you will need, even before you need it. This is much like a memory cache (see #63, Cache as Cache Can), but at a more global level. It is nifty and it works very well, indeed.

There is another significant benefit. When you run the Disk Defragmenter (or Norton Utilities Speed Disk), the program uses the Applog files to determine a sort order for where the various programs and files are placed on the hard drive. It puts those files and programs that you use most often nearer to the start of the disk (the outside edge of the platter), and those you use least often nearer to the hub. The net result is twofold. First, the programs you use most often are loaded more quickly. Second, the read/write heads need to move less to find the files you need, and so the wear and tear on your hard drive is reduced. Everything works faster and wears out slower – an ideal goal.

If you use a disk defragmenter that does not use Applog, no meaningful sort order is used and your system performance may well degrade. Both Norton Speed Disk and the Disk Defragmenter that comes with Windows 98 do use Applog. As a matter of fact, the Norton Utilities group wrote the Defragmenter that comes with Windows 98. If you open this program with a disk editor, it is easy to find their signature embedded in the code. Microsoft Corporation must have commissioned them to provide this utility program for Windows 98.

You say you have never defragmented your disk? Do it! Click **Start**, select **Programs**, then **Accessories**, then **System Tools**, then **Disk Defragmenter** and let it go to work. If this is your first time, you will see a significant increase in performance when you are done. Do it weekly.

Finally, let me put in a pitch for the First 100. The entire collection (100 articles) is now available on CD-ROM. They are recorded in Adobe Acrobat (\*.pdf) format, and a copy of the latest Adobe reader is present on the platter, as well. Most important, in addition to a usual Table of Contents, all the articles are searchable. That is, you can use the Adobe reader software to search all 100 articles for any that refer to DIMM, or cache, or DSHD, or memory, or any other term of your choice. This search is fast, and the articles pop up with your search terms highlighted. The CD-ROM costs \$15, postpaid, and the proceeds will benefit ARES/RACES in our state. Send your check payable to me at the address noted on the header of this column.

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter: Eskimo Pi

2000 pounds of Chinese soup: Won ton

Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE  
Secretary

P.O. Box 294 • Manitowoc, WI  
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61

The March meeting of the Mancorad Radio Club was brought to order by President Fred (W6BSF) at 7:35 p.m. The Feb. minutes were summarized and read to the club. They were approved by motions from Ken (K9HAG) and Gene (KB9KXF). The treasurers report was and also approved by motions by Bob (KB9INK) and Red (N9GHE).

A new member was welcomed to the club, Bill Laub (KF9G). Welcome and we look forward to getting to know you.

The board discussed the issue of the transmitting antennae. It is getting old and should be replaced. They agreed to get a new 14' high G7-144 Hustler brand for 160.00. The county crews will put it up when they do general maintenance on the tower.

The club received a thank you from ARRL for the 100.00 donation we made towards 2002 Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio. A certificate was also received.

As earlier reported Carl (KA9WYK) has set up a web site. He enters the monthly meeting minutes and other pertinent information on it. Also, Badger State Smoke Signals will be published bi-monthly for the time being.

President Fred brought up having a silent auction among the club members. It would be tail gate style, in the parking lot here at the club shack. It would probably be on a club meeting night, with a fry out possible.

President Fred also informed all current members of AIRES/RACES members

that he has new sheets to fill out. Please contact him if you are a member or would like to become a member of this. Fred will then make out a new roster.

Mike (K9SJ) from the Sheboygan club talked about a program called Rockets for Schools, May 18th in Sheboygan. Their club participates in this and invites us to come down and see what its all about.

This summer an open house for the public to see what our club is all about and why we are here. Fred has talked a bit to Parks and Rec. Dept. about this. More discussion to follow.

Our attendance drawing was held. Barney (N9XER) was drawn but not here. So the pot goes to 6.00.

President Fred gave a wonderful presentation on communication. Thank you for taking the time to go over the correct procedures for incoming and outgoing transmissions.

Meeting adjourned 8:57 p.m. Lunch followed.

Respectively submitted for approval, Theresa (KB9KXE), Secretary

KB9KXE	Theresa	K9SJ	Mike
W6BSF	Fred	KA9WYK	Carl
N9QFY	Dick	KB9GPN	Steve
KF9G	Bill	KB9VLS	Chris
KB9YRC	Travis	WB9VTM	Lyle
N9GHE	Red	N9VIA	Oran
W9OUT	Hub	KB9GOX	James
KB9GOY	Mary	Guest	Jordan
K9HAG	Ken	Guest	Justin
N9WUN	Chuck	KB9KXF	Gene
N4WGK	Denise	KB9WPE	Derek
KC9ARV	Ray	WB9DQD	Gene
W9NPX	Roger	KB9INK	Bob

President Fred (W6BSF) opened the April meeting at 7:30.

The Treasurers report was read and accepted by motions from Red (N9GHE) and Shawn (KC9AAH). The previous month's minutes were summarized and also accepted by motions from Rahlf (N9AWG) and Gene (KB9KXF).

Everyone is reminded that Carl (KA9WYK) has set up a website, www.geocities.com/W9DK, which has the minutes of previous meetings and also any upcoming events for the club. There may be a time in the future when we will not subscribe to Badger Smoke Signals and just have everything on our website.

Everyone was reminded that our weather spotting class will be held on April 17th up in Green Bay at NOAA Weather. It starts at 7:00. If you want to car pool, check with Fred for a list of people going. A tour of the facility will also be given. Andy, the voice behind the NOAA weather net will be there to answer any questions.

The club's first brat fry will be held May 10-11th. There is still room for any one to help. They will start at 9:00 and go to at least 3:00. Contact Fred if you haven't already signed up to help.

The USS Cobia event is fast approaching. It will be held April 27-28. Set up is on Friday, April 26th. There will not be a sleep over as the beds are being filled with the Boy Scout troop from Wheeling, IL. So we will begin each day around 8:00 and end around 8:00 Sat. night and 3:00 on Sunday. You must be signed in ahead of time with Fred and the Maritime Museum. QSL cards will be sent out.

The North Wind Bike Tour will be held June 26th and 27th. They are travel-

ing from Middleton to Sturgeon Bay. They have asked for some help from us in Manitowoc County to Algoma. There will be more on this next meeting.

Fred has met with the Parks and Rec. Dept and the Building Inspector in regards to our contract with the city.

New lighted EXIT signs were installed. Now it is in the hands of the city attorney.

Ron ((WB9MFB) strongly suggested that the club purchase a new fiberglass side arm support for the antennae on Viebahn Street tower. This would make it stronger with less sway. A better signal would also be gotten. We can purchase from Frank's Radio one for 158.00. The county will install and maintain it as usual. By a show of hands, the motion was passed. Fred will take care of this.

After lengthy discussion it was decided to buy a rig blaster from Hub (W9OUT) for 80.00 and also MFJ Windows software for the computers in the shack and the County EOC. Motion made by John (NZ9Z) and Rahlf (N9AWG).

The Sheboygan Ham Club has invited our club to help out with the Rockets for Schools program. It will be run May 15th-18th. Help is needed mostly on the 18th. Any one interested can talk to Fred for more information.

James (KB9GOX) confirmed that there will be NO Smelt-A-thon and Bike-a-thon in Kewaunee this year. It had been scheduled for July 20th.

Our club voted in a new member, Vern Diegel (KB9EME) from Mishicot. Welcome Vern.

We had a very informative report given by Travis (KB9YRC) on weather spotting, running a weather net and the

do's and don'ts when reporting. It certainly was timely, with our weather spotting class coming up next week. Thank you Travis, a job well done.

Our attendance drawing was held. David Black was picked but not in attendance. The pot goes to 7.00

Our next meeting will be held May 8th at the club shack.

Board meeting at 6:30 and regular meeting at 7:30.

Red (N9GHE) has 2 repeaters and a node stack for sale. If you are interested contact him.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. Respectively submitted, Theresa Hartlaub, Secretary

Meeting Roster:

KB9KXE	Theresa	W6BSF	Fred
KB9YRC	Travis	KF9G	Bill
N9GHE	Red	W9OUT	Hub
KC9AAH	Shawn	KB9KXE	Gene
N9AWG	Rahlf	Guest	Jordon
KB9GOX	James	WB9VYO	Vic
KC9ARV	Ray	NZ9Z	John
KB9VLS	Chris	KA9WYK	Carl
KB9INK	Bob	KB9EME	Vern

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Rich Nesbitt, N9WPH, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI

WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes of 2 April 2002, at Marshfield Clinic - Wausau Center.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Mike Wild - KB9DED

Program: The program for this meeting was the annual election of the WVRA Board of Directors. The election was held at the end of the regular business meeting. For election results, see New Business Section.

Present: K9MCZ, KB9STB, KB9VBR, N9NMH, N9MEA, KB9DED, KB9PVI, KB9OPQ, KB9BFW, KB9RXA, N9WRC, KB9YDP, N9LAE, K9AEJ, N9OVS, KB9ZOF, N9SDI, N9TTA, KB9YPS, KC9AEJ, W9GLG, N9NRA, K9MIX, N9PHC, N9LIA, K9LWL, N9SDL.

Secretary's report: Previous meeting notes as published in Badger State Smoke Signals and/or posted on the WVRA Web Site home.dwave.net/~wvra

Motion to accept: N9NRA Second: N9LIA

Treasurer's report:

Motion to accept: N9NRA Second: KB9RXA

Old Business:

- 1.. The club 220 MHz antenna hardline has been repaired and the old antenna is working fine. We are still planning to build a new antenna to replace the old one and install it in the Spring of 2002.
- 2.. The Club has for sale a number of 100 watt APRS radios. Contact Mark N9MEA or Mike KB9DED if interested.
- 3.. The WVRA encourages all to visit our Club Website at home.dwave.net/~wvra/. The monthly club meeting notes are published on the website each month along with other items of interest. Also, any items of interest from members to be included on the club website are welcome (minimum of 1 paragraph). Please send to Scott KB9PVI at winterscott@hotmail.com
- d.. Pictures for club ID's were begun at the February meeting. Jon KC9AEJ has volunteered to bring his digital camera, and ID's will be completed and issued at future meetings.
- e.. Annual dues are due in April. Annual dues for 2002 are: \$25 single / \$35 family. If you were unable to attend the April meeting, dues may be mailed to: Wisconsin Valley Radio Association, P.O. Box 363, Wausau, WI 54402.
- f.. If you know of any Hams who are not members but may be interested in joining, please invite them to attend any program or meeting to check us out and possibly join. Bring a friend!

New Business:

- 1.. MS Walk will be held on Sunday, April

14, 2002. Meet at the Youth Center Building in Marathon Park at approximately 8:30 am. The walk should be done by about 1:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to provide safety communications for this event. Please see Jack N9LIA if you are able to assist.

- 2.. Please mark you calendars: Field Day 2002 will be June 22-23. This is a fun time and a great opportunity to learn about setting up an emergency communications station, and operate on VHF and HF even if you do not have a license or privileges for HF! A sign-up sheet was passed at the April meeting. See Kim N9SDL if interested. Mike KB9VBR took orders for Field Day t-shirts and pins.
- 3.. Since the previous meeting notes are published on the club website, the majority of members expressed that they need not be read at the following meeting. The Board will check the club by-laws on this.
- 4.. Both 2 meter and 440 repeaters went down recently as a result of a failure of a cooling fan. The 2 meter repeater was brought back up quickly, but not the 440 repeater. We will need a new power supply so we can upgrade the 440 power amplifier. The 2 meter power amplifier also needs to be upgraded. KC9AEJ made a motion for the club to go ahead and purchase a power supply and upgrade the 440 repeater power amplifier. Second: N9LIA. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Also, N9SDL made a motion to go ahead and upgrade the 2 meter repeater power amplifier. Second: N9NRA. A vote was taken and the motion passed.
- 5.. Any requests for topics for future programs, please see a board member.
- 6.. WVRA New Board of Directors Elected: N9MEA, N9NMH, KB9STB, KB9VBR, KC9AEJ, N9MO, W9GLG. Congratulations to the new Board, and many thanks for the contribution made by the outgoing Board members over the last year. The new Board members will elect officer positions at the Board Meeting of April 16, 2002, at 7 pm at Sam's Pizza in Schofield. Results will be reported at the May WVRA club meeting.
- 7.. April 15-19, 2002, is Wisconsin Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week. A Tornado Drill will be conducted on Thursday, April 18. The NWS will issue a Watch at 1:15 p.m., and a Tornado Warning test at 1:45 p.m. The all-clear signal will occur at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Motion to adjourn: N9NRA Second: KB9STB

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 7, 2002, at 7 p.m. at the Marshfield



Clinic - Wausau Center Cafeteria. (Formerly known as the Wausau Medical Center). Park and enter from the main parking lot at the main entrance on the East side of the building. Call in on the 2m club repeater if you need directions: frequency is 146.64 (pl 114.8).

May Program: RTTY Contest Video by Kim N9SDL.

Respectfully submitted,  
Greg Barr - K9MCZ  
(k9mcz@arrl.net)  
WVRA Secretary

## HF DRILL AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Richard E. Polivka – NGNKO  
ARRL WI Section TS, OES, OO, VE (ARRL-VEC)



**11 September 2001.** A date which—and like Pearl Harbor—will live in infamy. Yes. A grievous blow was suffered by lady liberty as she stands out there avant-garde on Ellis Island, New York. An incident of such magnitude was unthinkable only a few short months ago, yet it happened. And because our innocence was so boldly broken asunder, we are now rethinking many old school strategies, as well as developing new ones, that will attempt to keep history from repeating itself. Furthermore, and God forbid, should such an event ever again occur, to have the infrastructure in place to minimize its impact on society.

When a disaster of such magnitude strikes, responding emergency organizations find that at some point in their procedures, they will need to inter-communicate if they are to be effective. That is a given. And being that most of these agencies squawk on different frequencies to begin with, achieving inter-communication becomes that much more difficult. Most communications systems—when properly designed and installed—can at best only handle a fraction of the radio traffic these frenzied events produce. This is where supporting communications, such as the Amateur Radio Service, comes into play. With this in mind, and as it was I had just moved, I set to work getting my emergency liaison station back on the air. Apartment living, however, soon presented me with my own challenge: how to work both HF and VHF from inside without bleeding into everything, as well as getting the cabling in and out, especially when no drilled holes or roof antennas are allowed? Hmmm.

VHF is tamer as far as the interference aspect goes, but HF, now that's another story! I was initially using an HF antenna indoors that was being tuned through my Kenwood TS-940S, and the interference was amazing! Not the best situation in the world. Not to mention the RF exposure I was putting myself through. Anything over five watts would bleed horribly into everything else, also not a good situation. While five watts may prove sufficient for QRP work, it lacks enough power to be heard consistently and reliably in the real world of amateur radio. So on the road to radio enlightenment I started, one step at a time. To begin, I needed to get rid of the lossy coax that sprawled and looped all across the floor like some angry python lying in wait to devour me should my attention span ever wane. One way to accomplish this would be to use a ladder line running balanced feeders, but I don't have the equipment for that. And there are some situations where that setup, in-of-itself, could present different problems altogether. So I settled on adding to my list of equipment to purchase: an SGC SG-230 autocooupler.

The SGC SG-230 autocooupler is a pi-network based tuner installed at the antenna feed point, and always adjusts so that the antenna presents 50 ohms to the coax. The autocooupler does its magic

through a microprocessor using two sets of adjustable shunt capacitance banks, with one being on the input and the other on the output along with a set of adjustable inductances located in series between the two banks. This unit can work down to 75 meters on an eight-foot piece of wire, and 160 meters on twenty-three feet.

As mentioned, I was using an indoor antenna—eight feet up and twelve feet across the ceiling. The counterpoise consisted of several runs of wire along the baseboards. The performance was, at best, mediocre. Plus, I had that demon RFI. And everyone, to include my neighbors, heard any output above twenty-five watts loud and clear! Not good. But my signal was getting out better than ever so I was content. For now anyway.

Then I receive a message that the Wisconsin Army National Guard was looking to have a communications exercise, and was inviting ham radio operators to participate, regardless of rating or experience level. The frequencies being used for this exercise belong to the military, and if they want us to use them, all they need do is ask. I know from working the statewide RACES nets on 75 and 40 meters that my station is worse than what they term a “little pistol.” I would say that it was more akin to a tiny squirt gun with a clogged nozzle that, at best, dripped when keyed—and I just had to improve on that!

So out came the analytical eye, which immediately took notice of the tall trees looming out front of my new location. As it was, they were located a reasonable distance not only from the building but from one another as well. I promptly stood between them where I paced off 150 feet which was, you know, a good distance for a long wire but, how best to get it up there? After further study, and contemplation, I realized that I first needed to involve the building manager if anything—including my antenna—was to ever get off the ground. I explained to him what I would like to do, and how I would like to do it. I gave him all the necessary details about running antenna wire between trees, and how best to bring the coax through an existing crack in the window where no modifications to the building would have to be made. I waited anxiously for his reply. In fact, I may have been holding my breath fearing that he might zig when I needed him to zag. Anyway, and in the end, he approved. With that, I eagerly started construction on the outside antenna.

I had in my crash box a dipole cut for the lower part of 80 meters using 18-gauge Copperweld wire. I tied the pieces together to form one big wire, and end-fed it with the SGC SG-230 as an “inverted L.” Now it was time to break out the fluorescent pink mason's rope I had on hand, along with a heavy weight (a large hex socket actually). Let me tell you that I am no Nolan Ryan; not by any means. But I managed to get the pieces

of rope that I was going to use to support the ends of the antenna, up and over the trees at a reasonable height. When all was said and done, I had the wire at 20 feet above the ground running 145 feet in length, along with a sore right shoulder as a reminder that, yep, Nolan Ryan I ain't. But at least I now had a serious antenna in the air. Speaking of which, any ham worth his or her salt that has ever installed an antenna before, knows it will always function better throughout its life when done during cold, windy weather. Like Murphy's Law, that's just the way it is in the world of antennas.

Now to test this monster wire “to see,” what it can hear. At some six miles from my QTH is an aeronautical Non-Directional Beacon (NDB) for one of the major runways at General Mitchell Airport in Milwaukee. It operates at 242 KHz, and on the old indoor antenna was just barely audible, as the noise level was better than S9 on the meter. But now, on the new outside antenna, the same signal was coming in at S9 + 50 over! The noise was still there, however, coming in at S9 + 20 over, which presents itself in the form of “input overload” while listening to AM. This is where I will tell you that I am glad to have on my TS-940S the 10db, 20db, and 30db attenuator.

Time now to perform the tune-up and programming of the SGC SG-230. The microprocessor within this unit stores tuning solutions in memory, and uses them to allow for quick tuning in response to frequency changes. However, and despite this, 160 meters does not come up with a tuning solution. This may be because the wire I'm using is only ¼ wave in length. Nonetheless, I can still tune to 1.81 MHz on the lower end of the 160-meter band. However, the match ends up at 2:1, and the solution ends up providing a 3.5:1 match at the upper end of the 160-meter band, or 2.0 MHz. It's therefore best to use that solution, and clean up the rest of the mismatch with the internal antenna tuner of your transmitter. All other bands were sampled every 25 KHz to preload the SGC SG-230 memory. The only real grief that I have run into with this system is on 10 meters, but that is understandable considering such a long wire antenna. But as for now—as well as the future—the SGC SG-230 tuner has solutions programmed into memory that will forever more, speed up the tuning process.

Testing the antenna system on the state RACES net on 40 meters proved that this configuration really works as stations that once could barely hear me, now received my signal loud and clear at only 100 watts. In fact, so much so, that I have been accused of running a gallon (1000 watts) utilizing RTTY on 20 meters! The antenna is the key.

Now that the antenna system is working better than expected, it's time to get everything else squared away to be ready for the National Guard drill. One big handicap in a MARS/CAP type event (acronym for **M**ilitary **A**ffiliate **R**adio **S**ervice – of which includes the Army, Air force, Navy, and Marines. For CAP it's **C**ivil **A**ir **P**atrol – which is a civilian aeronautical based search and rescue service), can be a radio that is incapable of transmitting outside the ham bands. The type acceptance of any radio is contingent on being able to not only work the ham bands but being modifiable for licensed MARS and CAP operators. To get a radio to tune out of band generally requires internal modifications, of which can void the warranty. My TS-940S is modified to allow for out-of-band trans-

mit, but only because it was that way when I purchased it. So that problem is, for me anyway, moot. Also, most amateurs use antennas that are restricted to their frequency of coverage, especially antennas that use lossy traps. The antenna that I have programmed into the memory of the SGC SG-230 has no limits within the 1.8-30 MHz range. Just key down and it's ready to broadcast.

In order to receive authorization to work the military frequencies, prior registration is required. Registration also allows a station to be issued a special event call sign for the duration of the event. This includes all the necessary information as to Station ID, and what frequencies are being made available for operation. We also received a chart concerning who volunteered, along with their respective call signs. I was surprised to learn that the distribution of ham volunteers matched pretty closely with that of the population density of Wisconsin.

The start of the drill on Saturday morning was rather calm. To begin, I had to get the coupler tuned up, so I emitted a low-level carrier to let the SGC SG-230 do its magic. Everything tuned according to plan, and people began checking in to the operation. It has been many years since I last operated on the military bands (as I am ex-MARS) exercising military protocol, but in no time I was back into the “left-right-left” groove. The net consisted of performing radio checks with the various stations throughout the state, and logging the results of the contacts. There were some Guard related problems with NCS in the beginning, but fixes on their part quickly remedied the situation. Good work guys!

On this morning, propagation was spotty where stations would be heard loud and clear as they dx'ed in, only to quickly fade into obscurity before the contact could be logged. However, as the day progressed the contacts became, well, quite consistent. While listening to my audio transmission, I noted RF backing up into the microphone circuit along the voice peaks. I traced it to the microphone shell that I was using, and as it was not grounded properly, and was itself acting like an antenna. I fixed the problem by working at it throughout the exercise. Little things like this manage to crop up whenever you change your station's configuration. If problems like this did not show up, Murphy would be disappointed, and my skills unchallenged.

At the end of the first day, I called the NCS (Net Control Station) and informed them that I was signing off for the night. They then told me what frequencies to try in the morning in order to locate where the net might be found operating. After a good nights sleep, and an early morning cup of joe, I checked in on the first frequency listed by NCS and, voila! There was the net, and everything was just as it was when I left it, although they had continued with operations throughout the night.

As the day progressed, operating conditions started relaxing as more and more small talk between stations fired up. There were times in these QSO's when I was asked what equipment I was running. I explained my station configuration as best I could. Even the NCS was hoping to one day have an antenna like I was using, which implied that their system was not up to par (but would soon be). The rest of the day was spent doing random signal checks, right up until the drill ended at Sunday noon.

My observations concerning the drill were numerous, with one of the more interesting being that the amateur

radio stations I copied, had consistently stronger signals than did their military counterparts. Why that was, I cannot say for sure. What I can do, however, is offer up eyewitness comparisons, in that the military NCS in Madison was several S-units weaker than other amateur radio stations in Madison running less power on only dipole antennas. To further illustrate this peculiarity, there were several times when a lesser-powered amateur radio station had to perform relay for the anemic, yet more powerful military stations. But this is why we run these exercises, that we might all excise our RF demons and learn from one another. Another interesting footnote here was the makeup of the amateur radio volunteers who had signed up to participate in the drill, with the majority of those being Extra Class and or current/former military MARS/CAP operators. I was hoping that the mix would be more

even in terms of license class and experience, but in a financially driven world where volunteerism is on the decline... So, what did I learn from this exercise? That interoperability is a necessity, and can be performed with a minimum of investment as the hardware and the operators are already present in the Amateur Radio Service. When the Amateur Radio Service was chartered, it was created to have a pool of trained radio operators who would be available for government service, if necessary. We are fulfilling that charter as we speak. Yes. The service has its hobby aspects, but there is also a sense of duty to country in order to allow our services the training necessary to help others in time of need. There is currently discussion being bantered about of another exercise being scheduled later this year that will involve message handling. There is also dis-

cussion of assigning permanent military call signs to those amateur stations willing to continue their stay with the program. Where this alliance will one day lead, is unknown. But what is known is that I am willing to perform my civic duty as a volunteer for love of country and its people in their time of need. Moreover, if the disaster of 11 SEPT 2001 is of any indication, I must ask: What of your readiness to volunteer in the Amateur Radio Service? I ask this because, besides the MARS/CAPS arena of which I happen to be associated, there is also ARES/RACES/SKYWARN. All of which are always on the lookout for a few good operators. If interested in MARS, you can check them out at: [www.asc.army.mil/mars/](http://www.asc.army.mil/mars/) and click the "How To Join" link. While you're there, you might want to click on the "Benefits" link as well. On the other hand, if you are inter-

ested in civil emergency with a flare for severe weather, you can check them out at: [www.mke-skywarn.org/](http://www.mke-skywarn.org/) and click the "Spotter Schedule" link. Be sure and check out the many other links available, as they can give you valuable insight into this program as a whole. Email addresses are provided at both websites should you require more information. And you can always ask a fellow ham. Remember the adage put forth by John F. Kennedy where he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask instead what you can do for your country"? Well, it still could not be any truer. Especially in light of 11 SEPT 2001. 73 all! Richard E. Polivka – NGNKO

## Computer Corner: First 100 on CD-ROM

Several years ago, Stan Kaplan (WB9RQR), author of the Computer Corner column in BSSS, released a compilation of the first 48 articles. A very strong response indicated that readers want a complete set of the articles. We now announce the release of the First 100, on CD-ROM. All 100 articles are in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, and there is an Index of Titles as well. Furthermore, the powerful search and link capabilities of the Acrobat Reader have been harnessed to make use of the CD-ROM a snap. In the Index of Titles file on the CD-ROM, a click on any title will take you to the complete article, and you can switch back and forth between the articles and Index at will. Moreover, you can perform searches for individual words, and the search results will show all articles that contain those words. A click will take you to any article in the list of those found, and the search words in that article will appear as highlighted text. Clearly, these capabilities make the CD-ROM a valuable reference tool for quickly finding topics of interest. If you don't have a copy of the Acrobat Reader, or if your copy is old, the latest version (5.0.5) is included on the CD-ROM, along with installation instructions. The CD-ROM, including all the files and the Adobe Acrobat Reader, will be mailed to you for \$15.00 postpaid. Send your order with payment to the address below. Sorry, no credit card orders. Proceeds will benefit Wisconsin ARES/RACES.

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR  
105 Martin Drive  
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654

### ENGINEERING TRANSLATIONS:

- 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone:  
1 Rod Serling
- 2000 mockingbirds:  
Two kilomockingbirds (work on it...)
- 1 kilogram of falling figs:  
1 Fig Newton
- 1000 cubic centimeters of wet socks:  
1 literhosen
- 1 millionth of a fish:  
1 microfiche
- 1 trillion pins:  
1 terrapin



WHEREAS, during times of national and state emergencies, amateur radio operators continue to provide communication resources; and

WHEREAS, these communications resources are provided at no cost to the Wisconsin taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be a need for amateur radio operators to provide emergency communication capabilities as a backup resource during state and national emergencies; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators throughout Wisconsin provide backup emergency communications for their local communities; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio clubs throughout the State of Wisconsin provide radio courses of instruction, encourage and assist with grade school and high school programs about amateur radio and in the process enhance student interest in science, geography, and physics, and thus provide the opportunity to become a licensed amateur radio operator; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators inform the world about Wisconsin's great circus heritage including the Circus World Museum, the Great Circus Train, and the Great Circus Parade; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators, participating in SKYWARN, provide trained and radio equipped severe weather spotters to assist the National Weather Service and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio organizations such as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) are organized and trained to provide emergency communication support; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators test their capability to operate in the field using alternate power sources during June annual Field Days; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott McCallum, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 22, 2002.

### AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR RECOGNITION DAY

in the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all citizens.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this fifteenth day of April in the year two thousand two.

*Scott McCallum*  
SCOTT MCCALLUM



(continued from page 10)

NET ROMNODE—PART 12

their MTU setting (and perhaps change it to 236 if it's a NOS or Linux station, 156 if it's another X-1J node).

If you do find that you need to change the MTU on the node, you'll find that it operates similar to the MODE command. Like MODE, you have a choice of syntax you can use - the old style, or the newer one. Here's a list of the MTU changes you can make with either:

Parameter	Default	Function
1	256	Sets MTU for the Radio Port (Port 0)
2	256	Sets MTU for the Serial Port (Port 1)
3	236	Sets MTU for Net/Rom IP routing
4	257	Sets the MTU that triggers an error response
5	328	Sets the MTU level governing the discard of packets (they'll be ignored)

The first form you can use to enter data has the \* character as a filler until you get to the parameter you want to change. Let's say you want to change the MTU on the Serial Port to 512. Here's how that command would look:

MTU * 512
Or the newer syntax makes it look like this:
MTU / 2 512

Both of the above examples tell the node to change the MTU on the serial port to 512 bytes.

NODE
This is really both a user and a Sysop command. It not only lets the user and the Sysop know how this node gets to another node, it's how the Sysop sets up a node's static routing table.

"Neighbour nodes" are ones that you can reach directly, and it's a good idea to have your reliable neighbour nodes "locked in" your node's routing table. It's also not a bad idea to enter known reliable nodes that are easily reachable through these neighbour nodes.

Each node is entered into the table with both an alias and call-sign, assigned a route quality, Obsolescence Count, Port number and digipeaters used to reach it, if necessary.

Here's how a neighbour node, WX9APR-2 with an alias of WAPR2, a route quality of 192, Obsolescence count of 6 on port 0 is added to the routing table:

NODE WX9APR-2 + 192 6 0
Note that this node is a neighbour node - we can reach it directly. If it weren't, we would have added the neighbour node call-sign at the end of that line.

To remove the same node from the routing table:
NODE WX9APR-2 - 192 6 0

Of course you can check routes by using the long form of the user NODE command. Let's say we have a node WAPR3 that we reach from WAPR2, the node shown in the above examples. If we send this to the node:

NODE WAPR3
You'll see this in response:
Routes to WAPR3:WX9APR-3
192 6 0 WAPR2:WX9APR-2

The first number, 192 is the route quality, the second is the obsolescence count, the third is the port number.

PARMS
The PARMS command is used for reading and setting various basic node parameters. When the PARMS command is issued by itself, the node responds with a string of 26 sets of numbers that tell what each value is. You'll need a key, such as this one below, to figure out what each set of numbers is telling you. Count the 5th number set from the left, for example, and you'll see the current setting of the initial obsolescence count. Here's the list of parameter numbers and what they indicate:
1 Size of destination node table
2 Minimum auto update quality
3 HDLC (radio port) default quality
4 RS-232 (Crosslink) default quality
5 Initial obsolescence count
6 Min Obs to broadcast
7 Nodes broadcast interval

8 Initial time-to-live
9 Transport FRACK timeout (seconds)
10 Transport RETRY counter
11 Transport acknowledgement delay
12 Transport busy delay
13 Transport window size
14 Transport overflow limit (frames)
15 No-Activity time-out (seconds)
16 Persistence (n/256)
17 Slottime
18 FRACK (T1) time
19 AX.25 window size (MAXFRAME)
20 AX.25 retries
21 ACK (T2) time (L2 RESPTIME)
22 Activity check (T3)
23 Digipeat
24 Callsign validation
25 Beacon mode control
26 CQ broadcasts

These numbers can also be used to set various parameters by the Sysop. The Syntax can use either of two types of syntax, just like the MODE and MTU commands. Let's say you want to change the Persistence to 128. Persistence is the 16th set of numbers

that you can read or manipulate. In the older style syntax, this would look like:

PARMS * * * * *
128
In the newer style syntax, it would look like:
PARMS / 16 128

The PARMS command, when used by a non-sysop user, will only allow the display of parameters. The node can be set to not display the parms to users with the command:

PARMS - D
It can be enabled with:
PARMS + D

That's all for this part. Next time, we'll continue our alphabetical exploration of the Sysop commands for these nodes. Until then,

2001 Assembly Bill 368

Date of enactment: April 2, 2002  
Date of publication\*: April 16, 2002

2001 WISCONSIN ACT 50

AN ACT *to create* 59.69 (4f), 60.61 (3d) and 62.23 (7) (hf) of the statutes; **relating to:** the authority of cities, villages, towns, and counties to regulate amateur radio antennas and antenna support structures.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** 59.69 (4f) of the statutes is created to read:  
59.69 (4f) AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNAS. The board may not enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution on or after the effective date of this subsection .... [revisor inserts date], or continue to enforce an ordinance or resolution on or after the effective date of this subsection .... [revisor inserts date], that affects the placement, screening, or height of antennas, or antenna support structures, that are used for amateur radio communications unless all of the following apply:  
(a) The ordinance or resolution has a reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic, public health, or safety objective, and represents the minimum practical regulation that is necessary to accomplish the objectives.  
(b) The ordinance or resolution reasonably accommodates amateur radio communications.  
**SECTION 2.** 60.61 (3d) of the statutes is created to read:  
60.61 (3d) AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNAS. The town board may not enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution on or after the effective date of this subsection .... [revisor inserts date], or continue to enforce an ordinance or resolution on or after the effective date of this subsection ....

[revisor inserts date], that affects the placement, screening, or height of antennas, or antenna support structures, that are used for amateur radio communications unless all of the following apply:  
(a) The ordinance or resolution has a reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic, public health, or safety objective, and represents the minimum practical regulation that is necessary to accomplish the objectives.  
(b) The ordinance or resolution reasonably accommodates amateur radio communications.  
**SECTION 3.** 62.23 (7) (hf) of the statutes is created to read:  
62.23 (7) (hf) *Amateur radio antennas.* The governing body of a city may not enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution on or after the effective date of this paragraph .... [revisor inserts date], or continue to enforce an ordinance or resolution on or after the effective date of this paragraph .... [revisor inserts date], that affects the placement, screening, or height of antennas, or antenna support structures, that are used for amateur radio communications unless all of the following apply:  
1. The ordinance or resolution has a reasonable and clearly defined aesthetic, public health, or safety objective, and represents the minimum practical regulation that is necessary to accomplish the objectives.  
2. The ordinance or resolution reasonably accommodates amateur radio communications.

\* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 1999-00 : Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].

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# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

**Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association**  
**Allen Schnepf, N0GMJ, Treasurer**  
**Ogema, WI 54459**

**Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor—453 Cottage Grove Avenue—Green Bay, WI 54304—e-mail: kb9aln@gbonline.com**

## WAPR News, May, 2002

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

Hello everyone, and welcome to Spring - sort of. At this writing, we are expecting a late April snowstorm after some unusually high temperatures. Let's hope this all ends soon so that we can once again schedule tower and other outside work with some degree of confidence. It's one thing to have a spring tower climb put off by rain, quite another when it's snow, and May is here!

There has been a little news in the past two months. One of the more interesting news stories has a peripheral amateur packet radio ingredient. As you may have heard, Joseph Konopka (also known as "Dr. Chaos") was arrested in Chicago in the past month.

Mr. Konopka was arrested as a fugitive from the State of Wisconsin, where he had been arrested, jailed and accused of vandalizing power poles and substations, as well as several radio transmitter sites. In addition to being a fugitive from the State of Wisconsin, he also was arrested with a quantity of cyanide, which he allegedly planned to use in a terrorist activity. Due to the nature of his alleged offenses and his potential plans for using the cyanide (not to mention his fugitive status), he is being held without bail.

Amateur Packet Radio is involved in this because one of the radio transmission facilities that Konopka was alleged to have destroyed was one that the Door County Amateur Radio Club had been using for it's WISTB node site. Although the vandalism and fire that it spawned happened about 2 years ago, the node has yet to return to the air.

This is an example of how one apparently misguided individual can destroy years of hard work with one senseless act (if indeed Konopka has done what has been alleged). The public reason for these acts of vandalism has been "anarchy"; Konopka has told others that he is doing all of this as a form of civil disobedience to protest certain actions by the government. Others feel that this is merely misplaced justification for his acts. Those who have known him in the past have made statements like "He's very smart, even brilliant, but just mean and enjoys being a jerk. The 'Anarchy' thing is a bunch of bull".

While we may never truly know the motivation behind these senseless acts, we do know one thing. It has seriously crippled packet network access in the northern Door peninsula. Should a wide-scale emergency break out that requires our services and packet radio, we will be in the unenviable position of having to make do with whatever is available. While it's great that we can do this when we need to, we certainly don't need a so-called "anarchist" to help us test our ability to improvise.

Let's all hope that the good folks in Door County can get their node back on the air soon, and that they see some measure of justice in the legal proceedings that will surely get underway soon.

Here's some news that's bound to make you feel a little better, though.

Leroy N8WQG hs reactivated the MIIRN node in Iron River, Michigan and the backbone node that feeds it. As I reported in the last news report, the Crivitz node stack (WIMAR:KE9LK-8) is once again active. This means that our neighbors to the north are connected back into the Wisconsin Packet Radio network. So look for some 8-land calls on your local node. Or drop on up and leave a message with one of the locals. The Iron Mountain LAN node is MIIMTB, the Iron River/Northern Wisconsin border node is MIIRN. Most of the locals use -1 as their mailbox SSID.

As was mentioned last time, we are still planning the coming WAPR meeting. This will be an important meeting, as new officers will be elected.

Our current chairman, Joel Papke N9BQM, has announced that he will not seek another term. WAPR treasurer Al Schnepf, N0GMJ would like you to now that he is anxious to be replaced. He took the job on after Larry, WD9ESU resigned. Al took it over only as an interim measure and would like to turn the job over to someone that may have more time available than he has for the job. And I would not mind being replaced as well. Perhaps someone else can bring a new perspective to this space we have in the BSSS?

We do know two things about the meeting - it's going to be in the Fon-Du-Lac area and we'd like to get as many folks to this meeting as possible.

Do look for the meeting announcement on your local BBS, or at the WAPR web site.

Speaking of the web site, it has a new address - although the old one will work for a while yet. The new URL is:

<http://members.gbonline.com/~kb9aln/wapr>

site in the very near future, so check in every once in a while and check out the changes and new features we'll be putting on there.

And that's all for this time out. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

## Net/Rom Node Information for the Sysop Part Twelve

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

This is part 12 of a series designed to help node Sysops learn more about the popular TheNet X-1J series of nodes. We'll skip over the more common user commands and devote our discussion to commands used by the Sysop. In this part, we will discuss the MTU, NODE, and PARMS commands.

MTU

MTU is a contraction of "Maximum Transmission Unit". This is the maximum amount of TCP/IP data that is permitted in an AX.25 packet. It can be thought of as kind of a "Paclen" for IP. In TheNet X-1JR4, the default is 256 bytes.

There is a lot of thought that must go

into changing this value. Here are some things to know if you think you may wish to change this setting:

- 1) Short packets get through best.
- 2) The node sends an error message if it is asked to handle an IP packet that is larger than it's permitted MTU value.
- 3) Some users may set their MTU incorrectly, and you may get flooded with mail from those users asking why they are not able to use the node.
- 4) The node is more likely to crash if it is asked to handle packets that are substantially larger than the default value.
- 5) Most digipeaters in TNCs will not resend a packet larger than the standard 256 bytes.
- 6) The calculation used to determine MTU is a little different than most may be accustomed to. Most IP stations set the MTU to 236, subtracting the 40 bytes in the IP header from 256. In the X-1J, they ask you to include all of the AX.25 call-sign and digi data, which is 38 Bytes plus 2 control bytes.

The bottom line is that 256 is a good default value, and it's best to keep it. However, if you have a user who can't seem to be able to send IP through the node, you may want him or her to check

*(continued on page 9)*

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**Allen Schnepf, N0GMJ, Treasurer**  
**Ogema, WI 54459**



THE TEST POINT  
(continued from page 3)

has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2001 test fee at \$10.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other

forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC

Milwaukee VHF Conference 2002!

Ken Boston, W9GA, the Badger Contesters, and the conference staff invite you to the annual conference in Milwaukee this coming July 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. They are working hard on putting together an entertaining conference for you.

If you've never been to conference, it's a worthwhile time for a VHF'er. First, you get the friendship and discussion with VHF'ers from all across the nation. Interesting presentations broaden and deepen your knowledge about VHF topics such as propagation, antennas, operating modes/skills, and new circuits. There is also a morning on the antenna range testing and comparing antennas. Bring along your VHF antennas and see how they do against reference standards. Similarly, we'll have a noise figure table running where you can have your recent pre-amp projects measured and compared.

The conference will be held at the Four

Points Sheraton near the Milwaukee Airport. Milwaukee, and all of Wisconsin for that matter, has much to offer in the summertime for vacationing. Our conference site is quite near Lake Michigan so temperatures should be reasonable. Consider making your trip to Milwaukee part of a longer vacation to the upper Midwest. The website and our mailings will have tourism ideas.

Mailings will go out in mid-February to any member in the past three years. In addition, many VHF'ers throughout the upper Midwest will be sent a mailing encouraging their attendance. This first mailing will give you all the detail available at this time in an effort to encourage YOU to attend. The registration mailing will go out in May and it will have the specifics on registration, lodging and travel. Continue to watch [www.csvhfs.org/CSVHF02.HTML](http://www.csvhfs.org/CSVHF02.HTML) for details too.

We are inviting any and all Rovers to bring their entire stations to be part of our "Rover Pound". They will all be available for viewing during the antenna range time.

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For more information contact: Steve, N9UDO at (608) 356-2313 or [n9udo@arrl.net](mailto:n9udo@arrl.net)  
Bill, N9KXX at (608) 643-6908 days, (608) 643-6453 evenings.

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Yellow Thunder  
Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)  
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

The March 7, 2002 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

The minutes of the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. There was no treasurer's report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Distributed flyer for the Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club Hamfest. to be held April 20, 2002.

OLD BUSINESS: Steve Schulze gave an update on the repeater including the very official executive meeting held at the Min-Continent Railroad Museum February 17<sup>th</sup>, The discussions with Len, N9QIP, the transfer of the repeater frequencies to the club and purchase of a new repeater and controller. Donations for same in the amount of \$100.00 were received from Steve Schulze, N9UDO, and Tom Harrison, N9PQJ. Brad Pointon donated the program software (\$65.00) as well as control radio. Discussion was held as to how the club can formally show their appreciation Brad for all he has done for the club. Steve stated that donations of any amount would be welcomed and most appreciated.

NEW BUSINESS: Club discussed a

memorial for Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, SK which may be combined with the memorial for Bob King.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS: Membership roster and Hamfest flyer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. followed by a very brief ARES/RACES meeting. Due to the low attendance, the exercise planned for the evening was cancelled.

NEXT MEETINGS:

YTARC: Tuesday, April 2, 2002, 7:00 p.m. EOC.  
ARES/RACES: Wednesday, April 3, 2002, EOC.  
ZILCH: No March Brunch.

Respectfully submitted,  
Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ  
Secretary

The following members were present:

Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
James Brann	KB9NXG	Bluffview
Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Lynn Loomis	KB9YOD	Reedsburg
Robert D Loomis	KB9VSQ	Reedsburg
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg

The meeting of April 2, 2002 was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

Minutes of the March 7,2002 meeting were approved. Treasurer's report was approved.

Announcements: Madison Swapfest 8 a.m. April 14, 2002

OLD BUSINESS: Steve Schulze gave a repeater update. Steve acknowledged contributions by members towards the repeater. Donations of any amount greatly appreciated.

NEW BUSINESS: Does anyone have a Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio QSL card? Discussed purchasing QSL cards. Bill Klinkner, N9KXX announced newsletter is about ready for mailing. Robert Loomis, KB9VSQ had information on Link Radio if anyone interested.

FOLLOW-UP: Purchase ARRL tapes in memorial for Bob King and Jim Romelfanger; Plaque; newsletter/

membership roster.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

YTARC - 7:12 p.m. Wednesday May 8, 2002 followed by ARES/RACES meeting - Sauk County Courthouse, basement.  
ZILCH: April 28, 2002 1030 a.m. Farm Kitchen  
Respectfully Submitted, Raymond J Matlosz, N9MLZ, club secretary

The following members were present:

Lynn Loomis	KB9YOD	Reedsburg
Robert Loomis	KB9VSQ	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
David Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Wayne Burgess	N9UDX	Lodi
Duane Grotophorst	N9DG	North Freedom
Jay Brendemuehl	KB8UMO	Portage
Leonard Wagner	N9XJG	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo

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Amateur Radio, Computers & Electronics

Wed. October 9, 2002

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